

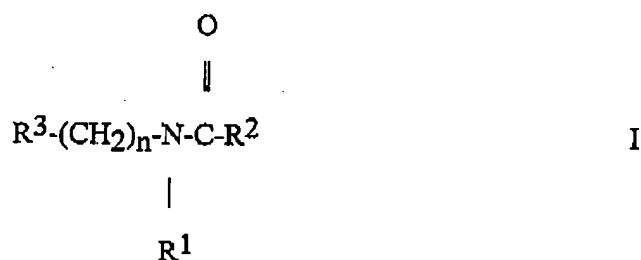
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

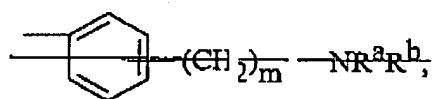
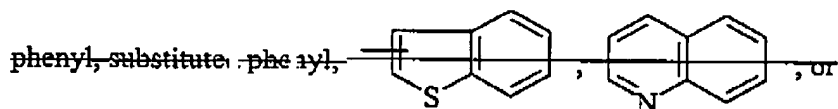
Claim 1.(currently amended)

A compound having the Formula I



wherein

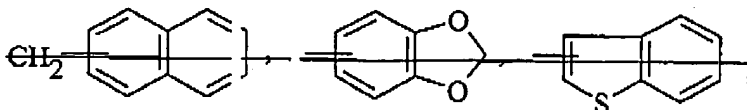
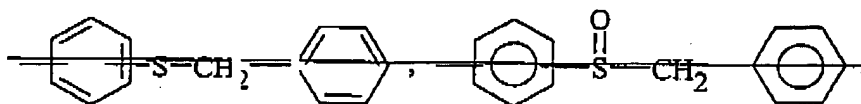
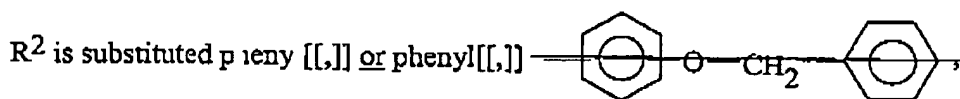
~~R¹ is pyridyl[[.]]-CH₂-pyridyl[[.]] or substituted pyridyl[[.]]-CH₂-substituted pyridyl,~~



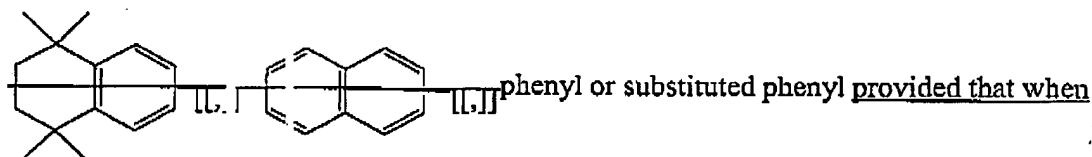
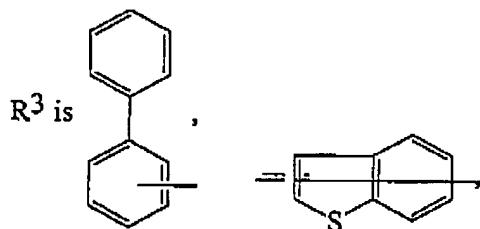
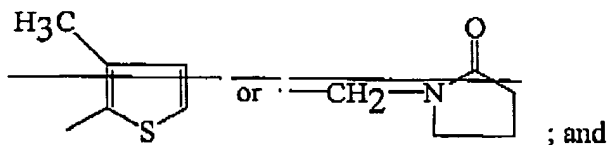
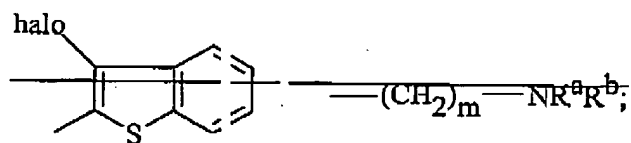
~~each R^a and R^b are independently hydrogen or C₁-C₆ alkyl;~~

~~m is 0 to 4;~~

~~n is [[0,]] 1[[.]] or 2;~~

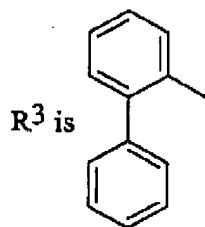


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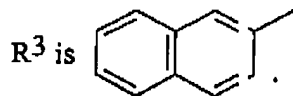


R² is phenyl and n is 1, R³ is not phenyl substituted by halogen; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 2.(original) A compound in accordance with Claim 1 wherein



Claim 3.(withdrawn) A compound in accordance with Claim 1 wherein



Claim 4.(currently amended) A compound in accordance with Claim 1 wherein

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R^1 is pyridyl[[,]] or ~~$\text{--CH}_2\text{--}$~~ pyridyl.

Claim 5.(currently amended) A compound in accordance with Claim 1 wherein

R^1 is ~~substituted~~ ~~benzyl~~ or substituted pyridyl.

Claim 6.(currently amended) A compound in accordance with Claim 1 wherein

R^2 is $\text{--OC}_2\text{alkyl--}$ substituted phenyl[[,]] or ~~phenyl~~.

Claim 7.(canceled)

Claim 8.(withdrawn) The compounds:

2-Benzylsulfan-4-*N*-(4-methoxy-benzyl)-*N*-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide;
N-(3,5-Di-tert-butyl-benzyl)-3,4-dimethoxy-*N*-phenyl-benzamide;
N-(3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl)-3,4-dimethoxy-*N*-phenyl-benzamide;
N-(3,5-Dichloro-benzyl)-3,4-dimethoxy-*N*-phenyl-benzamide;
 3,4-Dimethoxy-*N*-(4-methoxy-benzyl)-*N*-phenyl-benzamide;
 3,4-Dimethoxy-*N*-(3-methoxy-benzyl)-*N*-phenyl-benzamide;
N-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-3,4-dimethoxy-*N*-phenyl-benzamide;
 3,4-Dimethoxy-*N*-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-*N*-phenyl-benzamide;
N-(4-tert-butyl-benzyl)-3,4-dimethoxy-*N*-phenyl-benzamide; and
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-3,4-dimethoxy-*N*-phenyl-benzamide.

Claim 9.(withdrawn) The compounds:

N-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-*N*-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide;
N-(3,5-Di-tert-butyl-benzyl)-*N*-[4-(3-diethylamino-propyl)-phenyl]-benzamide;
N-(3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)-benzyl)-*N*-[4-(3-diethylamino-propyl)-phenyl]-benzamide;
N-(3,5-Dibromo-benzyl)-*N*-[4-(3-diethylamino-propyl)-phenyl]-benzamide;
N-[4-(3-Diethylamino-propyl)-phenyl]-*N*-(4-methoxy-benzyl)-benzamide;
N-[4-(3-Diethylamino-propyl)-phenyl]-*N*-(3-methoxy-benzyl)-benzamide;

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N-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-*N*-[4-(3-diethylamino-propyl)-phenyl]-benzamide;
N-[4-(3-Diethylamino-propyl)-phenyl]-*N*-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-[4-(3-diethylamino-propyl)-phenyl]-benzamide; and
 3-Methyl-5-iodo-pyridine-2-carboxylic acid (4-iodo-phenyl)-(5,5,8,8-tetramethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-amide.

Claim 10.(withdrawn) The compounds:

N-(4-Methoxy-benzyl)-*N*-phenyl-benzamide;
N-(3-Methoxy-benzyl)-*N*-phenyl-benzamide;
 3,4,5-Trimethoxy-*N*-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-*N*-quinolin-3-yl-benzamide;
N-(4-tert-Butyl-benzyl)-3,4,5-trimethoxy-*N*-quinolin-3-yl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-3,4,5-trimethoxy-*N*-quinolin-3-yl-benzamide;
 3,4,5-Trimethoxy-*N*-(6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-*N*-(5,5,8,8-tetramethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-benzamide;
N-(3,5-Di-tert-butyl-benzyl)-3,4,5-trimethoxy-*N*-(6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-benzamide
N-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-3,4,5-trimethoxy-*N*-(6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-benzamide
 4-Isopropyl-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-*N*-(5,5,8,8-tetramethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-benzamide; and
 4-Isopropyl-*N*-(3-methoxy-benzyl)-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide.

Claim 11.(withdrawn) The compounds:

4-Isopropyl-*N*-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide;
N-(4-tert-Butyl-benzyl)-4-isopropyl-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-4-isopropyl-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide;
 2-Ethoxy-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-*N*-(5,5,8,8-tetramethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-benzamide;
N-(3,5-Di-tert-butyl-benzyl)-2-ethoxy-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide;
N-(3,5-Dibromo-benzyl)-2-ethoxy-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide;
 2-Ethoxy-*N*-(4-tert-butoxy-benzyl)-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide;

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2-Ethoxy-*N*-(3-methoxy-benzyl)-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide;
N-(3,4-Dichloro-benzyl)-2-ethoxy-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide; and
 2-Ethoxy-*N*-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide.

Claim 12.(original) The compounds:

N-(4-tert-butyl-benzyl)-2-ethoxy-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-ethoxy-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide;
N-(6-Butoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-2-diethylamino-*N*-(5,5,8,8-tetramethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-acetamide;
N-(6-Butoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-*N*-(4-tert-butyl-benzyl)-2-diethylamino-acetamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(6-butoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-2-diethylamino-acetamide;
N-(2-Methoxy-phenyl)-*N*-naphthalen-2-ylmethyl-benzamide;
N-(4-Methoxy-benzyl)-*N*-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide;
N-(3-Methoxy-benzyl)-*N*-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(2-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide; and
N-[4-(3-Diethylamino-propyl)-phenyl]-*N*-(5,5,8,8-tetramethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-benzamide.

Claim 13.(withdrawn) The compounds:

N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-ethoxy-*N*-(6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-methoxy-*N*-(6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-methoxy-*N*-pyridin-3-ylmethyl-benzamide;
 Benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylic acid biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-pyridin-4-yl-amide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-2-nitro-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-4-ethoxy-*N*-(6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-ethoxy-*N*-pyridin-3-ylmethyl-benzamide;
 Benzo[1,3]dioxole-4-carboxylic acid biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-pyridin-3-ylmethyl-amide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-bromo-*N*-pyridin-3-ylmethyl-benzamide; and
 3-Chlorobenzo[c]thiophene-2-carboxylic acid biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-pyridin-3-ylmethyl-amide.

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Claim 14.(original) The compounds:

N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-nitro-*N*-pyridin-3-ylmethyl-benzamide;
2-Benzoyloxy-*N*-biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-pyridin-3-ylmethyl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-4-ethoxy-*N*-pyridin-3-ylmethyl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-4-methoxy-*N*-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-ethoxy-*N*-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide;
Benzo[1,3-dioxole-5-carboxylic acid biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-amide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2,4-dimethoxy-*N*-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide;
2-Benzoyloxy-*N*-biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-bromo-*N*-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide; and
Benzo[1,3-dioxole-4-carboxylic acid biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-(6-methoxy-pyridin-3-yl)-amide.

Claim 15.(original) The compounds:

N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-ethoxy-*N*-pyridin-2-yl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-bromo-*N*-pyridin-2-yl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-nitro-*N*-pyridin-2-yl-benzamide;
2-Benzoyloxy-*N*-biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-pyridin-2-yl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-bromo-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide;
3-Chlorobenzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylic acid biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-pyridin-3-yl-amide;
Benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylic acid biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-pyridin-3-yl-amide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-nitro-*N*-pyridin-3-yl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-ethoxy-*N*-pyridin-4-yl-benzamide; and
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-methoxy-*N*-pyridin-4-yl-benzamide.

Claim 16.(original) The compounds:

Benzo[1,3-dioxole-4-carboxylic acid biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-pyridin-4-yl-amide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-bromo-*N*-pyridin-4-yl-benzamide;

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N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-nitro-*N*-pyridin-4-yl-benzamide;
2-Benzylsulfanyl-*N*-biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-pyridin-4-yl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-4-ethoxy-*N*-pyridin-4-yl-benzamide;
Benzo[b]thiophene-2-carboxylic acid biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-pyridin-3-ylmethyl-
amide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-2-methylsulfanyl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-isopropylsulfanyl-*N*-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-propylsulfanyl-benzamide; and
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-2-methylsulfanyl-benzamide.

Claim 17.(withdrawn) The compounds:

N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-2-isopropylsulfanyl-*N*-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide;
2-Benzylsulfanyl-*N*-biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-benzamide;
2-Benzylsulfanyl-*N*-biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(4-chloro-phenyl)-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-propylsulfanyl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-methylsulfanyl-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-isopropylsulfanyl-
benzamide
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-3-phenylsulfanyl-benzamide;
2-Benzylsulfanyl-*N*-biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-2-(propane-1-sulfinyl)-
benzamide; and
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-2-(propane-2-sulfinyl)-
benzamide.

Claim 18.(withdrawn) The compounds:

2-Benzylsulfanyl-*N*-biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(4-chloro-phenyl)-benzamide;
N-Biphenyl-2-ylmethyl-*N*-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-(propane-1-sulfinyl)-
benzamide;

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N-Biphenyl-1-2-dimethyl-*N*-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-(propane-2-sulfinyl)-benzamide; and

N-Biphenyl-1-2-dimethyl-*N*-(3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-phenylmethanesulfinyl-

Claim 19.(currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 1 in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 20.(currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 1 in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 21.(withdrawn) A method of treating atherosclerosis, the method comprising administering to a patient having or at risk of having atherosclerosis a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

Claim 22.(withdrawn) A method of treating atherosclerosis, the method comprising administering to a patient having or at risk of having atherosclerosis a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

Claim 23.(withdrawn) A method of treating restenosis, the method comprising administering to a patient having or at risk of having restenosis a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

Claim 24.(withdrawn) A method of treating restenosis, the method comprising administering to a patient having or at risk of having restenosis a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

Claim 25.(withdrawn) A method of treating coronary heart disease, the method comprising administering to a patient having or at risk of having coronary heart disease a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

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- Claim 26.(withdrawn) A method of treating coronary heart disease, the method comprising administering to a patient having or at risk of having coronary heart disease a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 7.
- Claim 27.(withdrawn) A method of treating hyperlipidemia, the method comprising administering to a patient having hyperlipidemia a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.
- Claim 28.(withdrawn) A method of treating hyperlipidemia, the method comprising administering to a patient having hyperlipidemia a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 7.
- Claim 29.(withdrawn). A method of treating hyperlipoproteinemia, the method comprising administering to a patient having hyperlipoproteinemia a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.
- Claim 30.(withdrawn). A method of treating hyperlipoproteinemia, the method comprising administering to a patient having hyperlipoproteinemia a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 7.
- Claim 31.(withdrawn). A method of treating hypercholesterolemia, the method comprising administering to a patient having hypercholesterolemia a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.
- Claim 32. (withdrawn) A method of treating hypercholesterolemia, the method comprising administering to a patient having hypercholesterolemia a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 7.
- Claim 33.(withdrawn) A method of treating hypertriglyceridemia, the method comprising administering to a patient having hypertriglyceridemia a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

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- Claim 34.(withdrawn) A method of treating hypertriglyceridemia, the method comprising administering to a patient having hypertriglyceridemia a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 7.
- Claim 35.(withdrawn) A method of treating obesity, the method comprising administering to an obese patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.
- Claim 36.(withdrawn) A method of treating obesity, the method comprising administering to an obese patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 7.
- Claim 37.(withdrawn) A method of lowering plasma concentrations of apoB containing lipoproteins, the method comprising administering to a patient in need of lowering of apoB containing lipoproteins in plasma a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.
- Claim 38.(withdrawn) A method of lowering plasma concentrations of apoB containing lipoproteins, the method comprising administering to a patient in need of lowering of apoB containing lipoproteins in plasma a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 7.
- Claim 39.(withdrawn) A method of lowering the plasma concentration of Lp(a), the method comprising administering to a patient in need of Lp(a) lowering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.
- Claim 40.(withdrawn) A method of lowering the plasma concentration of Lp(a), the method comprising administering to a patient in need of Lp(a) lowering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 7.
- Claim 41.(withdrawn) A method of lowering the plasma concentration of LDL, the method comprising administering to a patient in need of LDL lowering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

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Claim 42.(withdrawn) A method of lowering the plasma concentration of LDL, the method comprising administering to a patient in need of LDL lowering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 7.

Claim 43.(withdrawn) A method of lowering the plasma concentration of triglycerides, the method comprising administering to a patient in need of triglyceride lowering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

Claim 44.(withdrawn) A method of lowering the plasma concentration of triglycerides, the method comprising administering to a patient in need of triglyceride lowering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 7.